

**REMARKS**

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed April 2, 2004. Claims 1-25 were pending in the Application. The Examiner rejects Claims 1-17 and 22-25 and objects to Claims 18-21. To advance prosecution, Applicants cancel Claims 1-12, 14, 16-18, and 22 and add new Claim 26. Thus, Claims 13, 15, 19-21, and 23-26 are pending. Applicants amend Claims 13, 15, 19-21, and 23-25. Applicants note that the amendments primarily correct typographical, grammatical, and formatting errors in the claims as originally filed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner objects to Claims 18-21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicates that these claims would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants amend independent Claim 15 to include the elements of Claims 16, 17, and 18. Thus, Applicants place independent Claim 15 in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicants also amend independent Claim 13 to include the elements of Claims 16, 17, and 18. Thus, Applicants also place independent Claim 13 in condition for allowance.

The Examiner objects to Claims 23 and 24 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicates that these claims would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants amend Claims 23 and 24 as indicated by the Examiner. Thus, Applicants place independent Claims 23 and 24 in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indications.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to allow independent Claims 13, 15, 23, and 24. Each remaining claim depends from one of these independent claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and request the Examiner to allow all pending claims.

Although Applicants believe the original claims to be in condition for allowance, Applicants amend the claims to allow the currently presented claims to issue immediately. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the original claims without amendment, and new

claims incorporating elements analogous to the elements in the original claims, in future applications.

**Objections to the Drawings**

The Examiner objects to the drawings for various reasons. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the drawings and the amendments to the specification obviate these objections. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objections to the drawings.

**Objections to the Specification**

The Examiner objects to the specification for various reasons. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the specification obviate these objections. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objections to the specification.

**Objections to the Claims**

The Examiner objects to Claims 2, 7, and 12. Applicants cancel these Claims without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112**

The Examiner rejects Claims 4 and 22-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants cancel Claims 4 and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants also amend Claims 23 and 24. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to Claims 23 and 24 obviate this rejection as to Claims 23-25. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the §112 rejections of Claims 23-25.

**Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102**

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-3 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Applicants' admitted prior art. Applicants cancel these Claims without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103**

The Examiner rejects Claims 4-6, 11-17, 22, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' admitted prior art in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0089998, which issued to Le ("*Le*"). Applicants cancel Claims 4-6, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, pending Claims 13, 15, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

As stated above, Applicants amend independent Claim 15 to include the elements of Claims 16, 17, and 18. Applicants therefore place independent Claim 15 in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicants also amend independent Claim 13 to include the elements of Claims 16, 17, and 18. Applicants therefore also place independent Claim 13 in condition for allowance. Claim 25 depends from independent Claim 23, which, as stated above, Applicants amend to place in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indications.

For at least all of these reasons, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the §103 rejections of Claims 13, 15, and 25.

**New Claim**

Applicants add new Claim 26, which is fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Claim 26 depends from independent Claim 24 which, as stated above, Applicants amend to place in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicants therefore request the Examiner to consider and allow new Claim 26.

**Conclusions**

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

No fees are believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants



Kurt M. Pankratz  
Reg. No. 46,977

2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600  
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980  
(214) 953-6509

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**CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:**

Customer Number:

**05073**